Groton Ambulance Association

Board of Directors Meeting

November 8, 2023

Board members present: Chet Kaniecki (President), Rob McDermott (Secretary/Treasurer), Kelsey Gomes (Training Officer), Paula Edwards (Member at Large #1), Martha Brucker (Member at Large #2)  
  
Other members: Kelsey Fowler, Christian Lombardi, Jordan Lombardi, James Petritz

1. President Kaniecki calls September Board of Directors meeting to order at 18:01 with Martha Brucker on a call and all other board members present.
2. Motion by Kelsey Gomes and seconded by Paula Edwards to accept minutes from October Board of Directors meeting as posted. Motion carried unanimously.
3. Officers Report
   1. President
      1. Items will be discussed in Old and New Business.
   2. Vice President
      1. No report.
   3. Secretary/Treasurer
      1. See attached submitted report. Motion by Paula Edwards and seconded by Kelsey Gomes to accept treasurer’s report as read. Motion carried unanimously.
   4. Training
      1. Congratulations to James Petritz, Jake Carrara, and Kelsey Fowler for being signed off in the training program.
      2. Congratulations to Dean Mayo and Jordan Lombardi for completing driving training.
      3. Thank you to all the FTOs who have been helping to get the trainees signed off through the program.
      4. November training details will be in person and sent out via email.
      5. Evelyn Lanye’s training is making good progress.
   5. Member at Large #1
      1. No report.
   6. Member at Large #2
      1. Reminded all members to keep areas in front of fire extinguishers clear.
   7. Vehicle Officer
      1. A written report was emailed for the status of vehicles. G200 and G302 will both be out of service for repairs.
4. Old Business
   * 1. An email vote was held October 17 by the board to accept the email request of April Sandt to change her status from Full Time to Per Diem. Motion carried unanimously.
     2. President Kaniecki was working on the 2023-2024 budget.
     3. President Kaniecki has discussed the outdoor sign installation which will need a town variance which is scheduled to occur on December 13.
     4. President Kaniecki noted that the new radios are being configured and he has been involved with meetings on how to set up the channels.
     5. President Kaniecki noted there is a State OEMS inspection scheduled for November 22.
     6. Motion by Kelsey Gomes and seconded by Paula Edwards to keep the Dell Toughbook that was purchased for a 30 day trial and to purchase six more Dell Toughbooks using ARPA funds. Crews have given good feedback on this Toughbook, versus the prior models tested. Motion carried unanimously.
     7. VP Boulanger noted the SOP committee was working on the Employee Handbook to get the draft available for board review.
     8. President Kaniecki noted that he has been working to get quotes for costs to replace and install a generator and to remove the one that is old and is hard to get parts for. He will continue to get more information to see what options are available as it is expensive.
     9. President Kaniecki noted the shift bid trial conduced in October led to good discussions and a new shift bid was conducted in person with the crews and went in to effect November 5.
5. New Business
   * 1. Motion by Rob McDermott and seconded by Ryan Boulanger for the seafood policy to change to allow seafood in the building when known employees with seafood allergies are not present in the building or on shift. Seafood is also not allowed during all public functions, meetings, and trainings. Seafood cannot be cooked on the stove or with shared utensils. Seafood is allowed to be covered and stored in the refrigerator. All seafood is to be removed by employees at the end of their shift. Motion carried unanimously.
     2. President Kaniecki will attend a training on December 7 on the topic of Worker’s Compensation, FMLA, and Paid Leave topics.
     3. President Kaniecki will schedule time for the AFLAC representative Allison Wheeler to meet with employees.
     4. President Kaniecki noted there was one new job application for review.
     5. President Kaniecki congratulated employees who had their hire date anniversaries in November:  
        Madelyn Koning 2 years  
        Jordan Lombardi 2 years  
        Rob McDermott 6 years
     6. Christian Lombardi noted that there was no report from the Sunshine Committee for October.
     7. Motion by Paula Edwards and seconded by Kelsey Gomes to increase President Kaniecki’s stipend to $4,000 per month effective December 2023. Discussion noted that President Kaniecki had been putting in great efforts on behalf of Groton Ambulance and should be recognized. Motion passed 4 yay, 0 nay, 2 abstain (President Kaniecki, Rob McDermott).
     8. Motion by Martha Brucker and seconded by Kelsey Gomes to renew the Principal Insurance policy for next year for employee Dental, Vision, and Life Insurance. Discussion noted that costs had risen by a small amount over the current year. Motion carries unanimously.
     9. Motion by VP Boulanger and seconded by President Kaniecki to enter in to a contract for health insurance for next year with the Anthem Silver Pathway plan and to fund $2000 for individual or $4000 for family employee HSA plans. Discussion noted that the current health plan was no longer available, and two plans and their costs were discussed. Employees noted that the HSA plan appeared to be the better option. Motion passed 5 yay, 0 nay, 1 abstain (Paula Edwards).
6. Good of the Order
   1. In honor of Veteran’s Day, President Kaniecki wished to thank all employees who had served.
7. Motion by Kelsey Gomes and seconded by Paula Edwards to adjourn at 19:56. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rob McDermott

Secretary/Treasurer